



NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

4600 SANGAMORE ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20816-5003

NEWS RELEASE

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Date: July 7, 2006 Contact: Susan Meisner, 301-227-3132, susan.h.meisner@nga.mil

Release Number: 06-09 Shalina Warren, 301-227-3105, shalina.r.warren@nga.mil

Vice Adm. Robert B. Murrett Appointed Director, NGA

BETHESDA, Md.—The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) welcomed Vice Adm. Robert B. Murrett as its third director at a ceremony at its Bethesda headquarters today.

Murrett noted NGA's "terrific legacy." With a view to the future, he said NGA "should continue to stay agile in order to best integrate NGA with developing defense and intelligence community components."

Guest speaker Director of National Intelligence Ambassador John D. Negroponte noted that Murrett's experience at the helm of the Office of Naval Intelligence "will serve us well in his new leadership position." The Director of NGA serves as both the DNI's principal advisor and the Intelligence Community's functional manager for geospatial intelligence.

Said Negroponte, "NGA's geospatial-intelligence products and analytical judgments are used by our nation's leaders, on a daily basis, in making decisions affecting all Americans. The extent to which we integrate the foreign, domestic and military dimensions of our national intelligence enterprise is the extent to which we will better protect our nation today and make it safer tomorrow."

Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence the Honorable Stephen A. Cambone also spoke at the ceremony, saying that he expected NGA to "continue to do great things under Adm. Murrett's leadership."

Lt. Gen. Jerry Boykin, the Principal Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence, and Lt. Gen. Ronald L. Burgess Jr., the Acting Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, also attended.

Murrett began his career as an afloat intelligence officer, including Mediterranean, North Atlantic and western Pacific deployments aboard the USS Kitty Hawk, USS America and USS Independence. He has held several key positions, including Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence for Commander, Second Fleet and concurrently U.S. Navy Staff Intelligence Officer for NATO's Striking Fleet Atlantic and Joint Intelligence Officer for U.S. Atlantic Command's Combined Joint Task Force 120 between 1995 and 1997.

From June 1997 until September 1998, he was assigned to the Chief of Naval Operations Staff as Executive Assistant to the Director of Naval Intelligence. Murrett was then assigned as Director, Intelligence Directorate, Office of Naval Intelligence in September 1998. Murrett assumed the duties of Commander, Atlantic Intelligence Command on Aug. 12, 1999.

He also served as the Director for Intelligence, U.S. Joint Forces Command, from Aug. 10, 2000 through Jan. 25, 2002. From Jan. 31, 2002 through March 2005, Murrett was assigned as the Vice Director for Intelligence, J2, on the Joint Staff. He has served as the Director of Naval Intelligence since April 1, 2005.

Murrett succeeds retired Air Force Lt. Gen. James R. Clapper Jr., who departed June 13 after almost five years at NGA's helm. Clapper was the first civilian head of the agency and also its longest-serving director.

NGA is a Department of Defense combat support agency and a member of the National Intelligence Community. Its mission is to provide timely, relevant and accurate geospatial intelligence in support of our national security. Geospatial intelligence is the exploitation and analysis of imagery and geospatial information to describe, assess and visually depict physical features and geographically referenced activities on the Earth. Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., NGA has major facilities in the greater Washington, D.C., and St. Louis, Mo., areas with NGA support teams worldwide.